

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the Prior Applications Section on page 1 of the specification with following rewritten section:

PRIOR APPLICATIONS

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/879,991 filed June 14, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,706,000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/542,040 filed March 31, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,464,649, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/285,021 filed April 1, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,066,103, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/975,978 filed November 21, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 5,964,718. The above-identified patent applications and patents are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18 at line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph.

At its lower end, the draw bar 30 frictionally holds a skin-lancing medium in the form of a disposable lancet 40 in which a needle or lancet 42 is disposed. The draw bar 30 includes a flexible latch finger 44 that has a projection 45 adapted to be received in a hole 46 of the inner housing 18 when the device is armed. A trigger member 49 is mounted in a hole 47 of the trigger sleeve 35 and includes an arm 48 extending partially into the hole 46. The trigger-~~46~~ 49 includes an inclined cam follower surface 50.

Response to First Office Action
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